

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 09573 221209Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INR-07 EB-08 INRE-00 /026 W  
-----124648 221211Z /10

O 221029Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4404

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 9573

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR NEA/ARN DRAPER FROM PICKERING

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAID, JO, US  
SUBJECT SSA LEVELS FOR FY 79

1. APPRECIATE REF AND GRATIFIED THAT MAQARIN BACK IN THE PROGRAM. OBVIOUSLY WE WOULD PREFER \$103 MILLION LEVEL EXCLUSIVE OF MAQARIN BUT IF NECESSARY TO TAILOR TO \$93 MILLION WE STRONGLY PREFER \$30 MILLION FOR CORE PROGRAM; \$30 MILLION FOR BUDGET SUPPORT AND \$33 MILLION FOR POTASH.
2. THE CONGRESS IS CLEARLY MOST PARTIAL TO THE SORTS OF DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES INCLUDED UNDER THE CORE PROGRAM AND WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO DROP THE CORE PROGRAM BELOW \$30 MILLION.
3. BUDGET SUPPORT AT \$30 MILLION WOULD BE \$10 MILLION BELOW THE FY 78 FIGURE, BUT STILL ROUGHLY COMPARABLE TO BUDGET SUPPORT EXPECTED FROM KUWAIT OR SAUDI ARABIA. IT SHOULD BE JUST ENOUGH TO ACCOMPLISH POLITICAL PURPOSE AND STILL MEET CONGRESSIONAL FEELINGS ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF YEARLY DECREMENTS IN BUDGET SUPPORT.

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4. WE HAVE ALREADY PUT \$6 MILLION INTO POTASH FEASIBILITY AND \$5 MILLION INTO POTASH DESIGN. \$33 MILLION MORE IN FY 79 FOR POTASH CONSTRUCTION WOULD MAKE OUR TOTAL CONTRIBUTION A RESPECTABLE \$44 MILLION. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT IN PREPARING THE PROGRAMS FOR FY 80 WE MIGHT FIND SOME ELEMENT IN THE OVERALL POTASH PROJECT THAT COULD BE SEPARATED OUT

FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$6 MILLION LOAN IN THAT YEAR. THUS, CONCEIVABLY, OUR ULTIMATE TOTAL CONTRIBUTION MIGHT BE RAISED TO \$50 MILLION. OF COURSE WE WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER OTHER CLAIMS FOR SUPPORT IN FY 80 AHD PRIORITY OVER ANY ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS FOR POTASH.

5. WITH REGARD TO POTASH WE FEEL THAT IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND THAT IT IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF PROJECT THAT CONGRESS EXPECTS INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND OIL-RICH DONORS TO FUND. TOO OBVIOUS A DISPARITY BETWEEN THE LEVELS FOR THE CORE PROGRAM AND POTASH MIGHT INVITE CONGRESSIONAL CRITICISM.  
PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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